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| STATH OF NEW JERSEY

BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR
COMMITTEE OF THE STATE BOARD OF
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY
EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OF REVOCATION OF THE CERTIFICATION OF

TRUDI JOHNSON, CADC Certification No. 37CA00028200

TO PRACTICE ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened before the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners ("the Committee") upon receipt of information which the Committee has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- Respondent is a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor in the State of New Jersey, and has been certified at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. On or about September 21, 2010, the Executive Director of the Committee, mailed a letter to respondent's address of record by regular mail summoning respondent to testify before the Committee on October 22, 2010 regarding

respondent's July 21, 2010 arrest for forgery, N.J.S.A. 2C:21-1.

- 3. The regular mailing was not returned.
- 4. Respondent submitted undated documents unresponsive to the September 21, 2010 letter.
- 5. On October 14, 2010, the Deputy Attorney General who counsels the Committee sent a letter to respondent in response to the submitted documents. In the letter, the Deputy Attorney General again advised respondent that she was required to appear before the Committee on October 22, 2010. The letter was sent by regular mail and was not returned.
- 6. Respondent failed to attend the scheduled proceeding as directed and failed to submit any evidence showing good cause for her failure to appear.

## **DISCUSSION ON FINALIZATION**

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline (POD) was entered by this Committee on November 12, 2010 and served upon respondent by Certified Mail with Return Receipt and regular mail at respondent's address of record. The POD was subject to finalization by the Committee at 5:00 p.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for considerations and reasons therefor. The Committee did not receive a copy of the receipt (the green card) nor was the regular mail returned, nor has the Committee received a request to

change respondent's address of record. Because the POD was mailed to respondent's address of record, the Committee deems service to be effective. Respondent can not evade process by failing to respond. To date, the Committee has not received a response from respondent. Inasmuch as three months have elapsed since service of the order, the Committee finds that no material discrepancies have been raised. Accordingly, the Committee considered the matter, determined that further proceedings were not necessary and that the Provisional Order should be made final.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Respondent's failure to appear before the Committee constitutes a failure to cooperate within the intendment of <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 13:45C-1.2, -1.3, which constitutes professional misconduct pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 10th day of Journey, 2011

ORDERED that:

- Respondent's New Jersey Alcohol and Drug Counselor Certification is hereby suspended until she appears before the Committee and cooperates in the Board's investigation.
- 2. A \$250.00 civil penalty is hereby imposed for respondent's violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

ALCOHOL AND DRUG COMMITTEE OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

By: Edward Reading, CADC

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